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species) have filiform leaves below the surface of the water, and spreading leaves above. The floating heart, frog's-bit, duck-weed, pond-lily, *Marsilia*, etc., with their hanging roots, or slender stems, present no opposing surface to water. *Polygonum aquaticum*, with its float-like leaves at the ends of long and slender petioles, is not likely to be torn from its place of growth, however swift the current.

The form and arrangement of the leaves of conifers and heaths are well adapted to wind-swept regions. The conifers grow in the highest Alpine regions the world over, where they are subjected to the most violent winds and storms; but their leaves, being so very small and unusually well secured to the branches, offer but little resistance to the winds. The winds that set the oaks, elms and maples in an uproar pass over the pine, larch, and spruce with a whisper. On the wind-swept moors and downs of England the fine-leaved heaths grow in the greatest profusion.

Possibly it might be worth while for some botanists to consider why each family or species of plants has leaves of a shape peculiar to itself, and why some other form would not do as well, keeping in view the plant's place of growth and the work it has to do. The function of leaves as depositories of food and moisture, and that of bulb-scales, bud-scales, spines, tendrils, pitchers, fly-traps, etc., has been well explained, but are there not some other interesting generalizations that are known to some botanists and which have not been made known to botanists at large?

The thick and glossy leaves of the Ericaceae, the much-divided leaves of the Umbelliferae, the thick and succulent leaves of many salt-marsh plants, and other well-known facts, suggest questions which are not easily answered in a satisfactory manner by one man; but, by the mouths of many witnesses, the design of some leaf-forms may be established.

Do the rings of beets show growth during any definite period of time?

Roxbury, Mass.

H. L. CLAPP.

Gleanings in Westchester County.—In October, 1880, I stumbled upon a small cluster of *Aster amethystinus*, Nutt., about half a mile North of Wood-Lawn Cemetery, on a new road leading to Mount Vernon. Several species of *Aster* were growing near by, but I failed to find this one in any other place, though I searched for it through fields and along road-sides for a mile or more around.

In July, 1881, I found *Scirpus sylvaticus*, L., and *Melanthium Virginicum*, L., in a small bog about a mile East of Tarrytown. In neglected yards and gardens within the village proper, *Galinsoga parviflora*, Cav., has appeared in profusion, but as a recent interloper.

Yonkers, N. Y.

E. C. HOWE,

A Query.—Can any reader of the BULLETIN forward proof that *Carex Knieskernii*, Dew., is a good species? Dr. Gray, in comparing it with *C. Sullivantii*, says: "Perigynia glabrous and more evidently nerved." Dewey (in Wood) refers to an "oblong achenium." Now, *C. Sullivantii* has an oblong achenium, but it is always abortive. Dr.

Geo. Vasey regards this so-called species as a form of *C. sylvatica*, Huds., (of Europe); but the latter is more than thrice as small, and the perigynia are long-beaked. Mr. William Boott writes me that *C. Sullivantii* and *C. Knieskernii* are one and the same. Is it possible to get any further light on this subject?

Yonkers, N. Y.

E. C. HOWE.

The Syracuse Botanical Club.—Since commencing our expeditions this season we have made many new additions to our collection of the Onondaga flora, among them being *Magnolia glauca*, L.; *Stellaria longifolia*, Muhl.; *Geranium maculatum*, L., with pure white flowers; *Rhamnus catharticus*, L.; all of the maples given in Gray's Manual; *Gymnocladus Canadensis*, Lam.; *Potentilla palustris*, Scop.; *Pyrus sambucifolia*, Cham. & Schlecht.; *Amelanchier Canadensis*, var. *Botryapium*, T. & G., a tree fully fifty feet high; *Chrysosplenium Americanum*, Schwein.; *Oenothera pumila*, L.; *Lonicera oblongifolia*, Muhl., with pure white flowers; *Viburnum nudum*, L.; *Hieracium aurantiacum*, L., although an introduced plant, becoming very common, even springing up in the flower-beds in our gardens, and another introduced composite, *Tragopogon pratensis*, L., bidding fair to be as common along roadsides and in fields; *Specularia perfoliata*, A. DC.; *Kalmia glauca*, Ait., for the first time in flower; *Ilex monticola*, Gray; *Plantago lanceolata*, L., with hypertrophied compound spikes; *Menyanthes trifoliata*, L.; *Myrica Gale*, L.; *Betula pumila*, L.; many willows of whose species we are not as sure as we hope to be; *Zannichellia palustris*, L.; *Potamogeton crispus*, L., in fruit in Seneca River; *Scheuchzeria palustris*, L., in flower; *Habenaria virescens*, Spreng., sweet-scented, with the odor of clover; *Smilacina trifolia*, Desf.; *Ornithogalum umbellatum*, L., in bloom in the midst of Cicero Swamp; *Eriophorum vaginatum*, L., and *E. gracile*, Koch., vars. *paucinerium* and *brevifolium*; *Carex siccata*, Dew.; *C. Muhlenbergii*, Schk.; *C. stricta*, Lam.; *C. crinita*, var. *morbida*, Carey; *C. limosa*, L.; *C. irrigua*, Smith; *C. grisea*, Wahl.; *C. debilis*, Michx.; *C. riparia*, Curtis; *C. Pseudo-Cyperus*, L., and *C. lupuliformis*, Sartwell. We have just begun collecting *Gramineae* and *Equisetaceae*. One of our members, Mrs. Leach, has at last discovered two stations for *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, which had been found before in Onondaga County, but not by any of the Syracuse Botanical Club. Most of our old floral friends we have found ready to greet us whenever we have visited their homes.

MARY OLIVIA RUST.

CORRECTION.—In Mr. Greene's article in our February number, the word "leaves" (p. 16, 9th line from bottom) should read "rays"

In Mr. Ravenel's note on page 23, "just in leaf" (line 17) should read "not in leaf," and "eight feet" (line 20) should read "three feet."